

## **FAQs: Absentee Voting 2018**

**Q: Clarification please: if a CBRF has less than 5 registered absentee voters, a SVD does not go there?**

A: Not unless the clerk elects to send SVDs.

**Q: I had 5 registered voters at a care facility and one died. Do I mail the ballot to the facility then? I'm pretty sure they won't get returned.**

A: If the clerk has reliable information that a voter has passed away before Election Day, he or she should not send the voter a ballot.

**Q: Just a clarification please, going back to requests must be individual. We often have an email from husband and wife requesting absentee. You are suggesting they send individual emails with one person listed per request.**

A: A request for an absentee ballot must be made by the voter. They could send one email with two requests included.

**Q: What is the date on the most recent One Wisconsin Institute court decision memo?**

A: We posted a list of FAQs on August 26, 2016: <http://elections.wi.gov/node/4078>

**Q: Is there anything that could be done to eliminate the need to prepare a certificate of registration for those individuals coming in to register and in-person absentee vote at the same time? It is so time consuming for the larger election. Could a change to that legislation be suggested? :)**

A: We have heard similar comments from the clerks and have included the elimination of the form for in-person absentee voting on our legislative agenda.

**Q: If a voter in an SVD-eligible facility has provided photo ID, and we have it on file, can we send the ballot in the regular EL-122 envelope?**

A: If you are not sending Special Voting Deputies to an eligible facility because there are fewer than five registered voters and/or no absentee ballot requests on file, you need to use the EL-122sp certificate envelope. It has a section at the bottom of the form for clerks to mark if election inspectors should be checking for a copy of the voter's photo ID or the certification of the care facility representative. You can print a copy from our website and tape it to a regular envelope.

**Q: If husband is witnessing wife's absentee ballot and forgets to put his address down (they live together), can we just insert address and initial or do we need to call first?**

A: If the clerk can discern any missing information from outside sources, clerks are not required to contact the voter. Be sure to initial any information you add to the envelope.

**Q: You mentioned that indefinitely confined voters continue to receive ballots until they stop returning them. How many elections would you recommend they miss returning ballots before we take them off the list?**

A: If they don't return a ballot for the April, November or a special election, send them the 30-day notice that they will be removed from the indefinitely confined voter list unless they contact you to stay on the list.

**Q: if your Type E Notice lists the last day to vote an absentee is the Friday before election, can you still take an in-person absentee on the Saturday or Sunday before the election?**

A: Currently, yes, due to the One Wisconsin Institute court decision in 2016.

**A: Slide on Absentee Ballot Request Deadlines is incorrect for regular voters. Says not earlier than 8 a.m. on the 3rd Monday before election and not later than 7 p.m. on Friday before election. No weekend or holiday hours permitted.**

A: The page from the manual used for the slide is incorrect, but the information in the presentation is not. The manual will not be updated until the One Wisconsin Institute court decision is decided.

**Q: Are we able to use old envelopes we still have in stock?**

A: Yes, if the required elements are on the envelope. Please see the clerk communication posted on September 18, 2017: <http://elections.wi.gov/node/5230>.

**Q: Is it OK to mail a ballot to an overseas voter if they REQUEST a ballot be mailed to them.**

A: Yes.

**Q: Do confidential voters have to provide any type of documentation?**

A: Confidential voters must provide the clerk with a copy one of five documents, such as a protective order in effect or an affidavit from a sheriff, police chief or DA that verified the voter is a victim of stalking. For more information about the types of documents a confidential voter may provide, please review our voter guide:

[http://elections.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/154/confidential\\_voters\\_wi\\_voter\\_guide\\_pdf\\_83738.pdf](http://elections.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/154/confidential_voters_wi_voter_guide_pdf_83738.pdf).

**Q: Step 1 of envelope: why do you state no glue (I understand tape).**

A: It may indicate the envelope was tampered with and resealed.

**Q: So last year, we only had one election in April and if the indefinitely confined voter didn't return that one (or the ones from 2016 presidential) we can take them off the list.**

A: Within five days of an April, November or special election, the clerk should send an indefinitely confined voter the 30-day notice to contact the clerk if the voter wishes to remain on the list.

**Q: Can regular voters receive ballots by email? I thought only military voters could receive by email? States on "Faxing or Emailing Absentee Ballots", that regular voters may receive by email. Is that current?**

A: Currently, due to the One Wisconsin Institute court decision, any voter may request that their ballot be emailed or faxed to them. Clerks are required to email or fax ballots to military and permanent overseas voters, but may elect to do so for regular voters as well. All ballots must be returned by mail.

**Q: Can we use the older certificate envelope for in-person absentee voting?**

A: If the required elements are on the certificate envelope:

<http://elections.wi.gov/node/5230>.

**Q: Does the witness name and address need to be legible even if the name and address is complete?**

A: A signature can be anything. You should be able to discern that the witness has listed his or her address, otherwise it may need to be corrected.

**Q: Is it allowed to paste/tape new EL-122 certificate envelopes to old envelopes?**

A: Yes.

